Declassifie	d in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2012/07 CENTRAL WOALGENCE AGENCY INFORMATION FOR	1/17 : CIA-RDF REPOI	282-0045 RT	7R0047	700280	0015-1	
COUNTRY	USSR	DATE	DISTR.	24 A	R 50	50X1-HU	JM
SUBJECT	Retention of German FWs in the USSR	NO. O	f pages	2			
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1.	German PWs repatriated during the last months Sentember and October 1949, MVD men not belon	of 1949 rep	ort tha	t, in s arri	veđ		

- German PWs repatriated during the last months of 1949 report that, in September and October 1949, MVD men not belonging to the PW camps arrived with lists of German PWs who at one time were members of units accused of atrocities on Soviet territory. Those PWs were then subjected to protracted interrogations.
- 2. Interrogations took place during the night in order that the FWs' output should not be lost during the working day. The procedure during interrogations varied from a correct approach to acts of sheer brutality. The following are examples of the latter:
 - a. At one camp, PWs were offered cigarettes. When they went to accept one, the cigarette boxes were slammed down, cutting the PWs' fingers to the bone. The interrogations continued with the PWs' fingers still jammed in the boxes.
 - b. A PW was squeezed into a cell approximately 12 metres high which could contain one person only. An electric bulb of 100 watts in the ceiling was switched on. The PW was kept in this cell for 10-12 hours. When cells of this kind were opened, the PWs were usually found in an unconscious state and, on being awakened with icy water, were immediately interrogated. Thus physically weakened, they usually "confessed" to all of which they were accused. After the PW signed the "confession", the MVD interrogators became very pleasant and presented the "guilty" PW with food and cigarettes. The "trial" took place a few weeks later and the PW was sentenced. Sentences ranged from 5-15 years of forced labor.
- 3. The following "crimes" were enough for a PW to be sentenced:
 - a. To have stolen chickens on Soviet territory during the war.
 - b. To have been a driver transporting Soviet civilians from East to West.
 - c. To have been an interpreter who participated in the interrogations of Soviet PWs.
 - d. To have been a "landesschuetze" (older soldier) guarding Soviet PWs on Soviet territory.

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- e. To have fought against Soviet partisans.
- 4. It is estimated by returning PMs that, by such methods, about 25-30 percent of all PMs in these camps were being retained. The PMs retained after the accusation were mainly from the following categories:
 - a. S.S. units.
 - b. Police and Military Police regiments.
 - c. Security divisions.
 - d. The more intelligent PWs.